

is a national commitment to deal with these problems. President Bush and the Congress have made available an additional \$46 million specifically earmarked to help states meet the year 2000 objectives in immunizing 90 percent of preschool children by 24 months of age. These funds will be awarded to state and selected local health department which will fund local groups in both the public and private sector who develop and implement actions designed to meet these objectives. The most important change made by this bill deals with funding. In the original bill, the state funds were going to be used to implement the program. If this amendment is adopted, federal funds will be used. At a time when we are rejecting bills based on their fiscal impact, it makes sense to allow the Department of Health the authority to go after all available funds from other sources. I urge you to support AM3675. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Schmit, did you wish to address this amendment? Senator Robinson, this amendment?

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I have a question for Senator Bohlke. Can you guarantee that we will not have General Funds expended for this bill now and in the future?

SENATOR BOHLKE: I would not guarantee on any bill.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Well, is there any chance that next year we might have a match, a 50-50 match or? I think it's very important because we've had these bills slide through before and I think we've got to face that issue.

SENATOR BOHLKE: The program is a five-year program, Senator Robinson. We would make our application for one year. No, I cannot guarantee future years.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Is there General Fund money in the first year?

SENATOR BOHLKE: No, there is not.

SENATOR ROBINSON: How much federal money?

SENATOR BOHLKE: The program has 46 million and it will be dependent on the states or the agencies making their application and that's what's important. I should tell you I handed out